

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Chou et al.

Application No. 09/998,858

Filed: October 31, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR NITRIDE )  
SPACER ETCH PROCESS IMPLEMENTING )  
IN SITU INTERFEROMETRY ENDPOINT )  
DETECTION AND NON-INTERFEROMETRY )  
ENDPOINT MONITORING )



Examiner: K. Chen

Group Art Unit: 1765

Docket No. LAM2P295

Date: July 30, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 30, 2003.

Signed

Kay Harlow

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(e)

Mail Stop DD

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified Patent Application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with the Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these citations of official record in this Application.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the references enclosed herewith were cited in an International Search Report in a counterpart international Application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. For the Examiner's use and information, a copy of the International Search Report in the corresponding International Application is enclosed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is due in conjunction with the filing of this IDS.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this Application does not exist, or that these references indeed constitute prior art.

If the Commissioner should determine that additional fees are required for filing the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to our deposit account number 50-0805 (Order No: LAM2P295). A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney Docket No. LAM2P295

<b>Form 1449 (Modified)</b>  <b>Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant</b>  (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)	Attorney Docket No:	U.S.
	LAM2P295	09/998,858
	Applicant:	
	Chou et al.	
	Filing Date:	Group:
	October 31, 2001	1765

### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class
	A	US 2001/0009245 A1	07/2001	Allen, III	216	2
	B	5,756,216	05/1998	Becker et al.	428	446
	C	US 6,180,535 B1	01/2001	Wu et al.	438	734
	D	US 6,225,203 B1	05/2001	Liu et al.	438	595
	E	US 6,228,277 B1	05/2001	Kornblit et al.	216	60
	F					
	G					
	H					
	I					
	J					
	K					

### Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application

Examiner Initial	No.	Document No.	Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
							Yes	No
	L							
	M							
	N							
	O							
	P							

### Other Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Date, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication
	Q	
	R	
Examiner		Date Considered

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.